

Atlantic Richfield Company

Roy I. Thun
Environmental Project Manager

6 Centerpointe Drive
LaPalma, CA. 90623-1066
Office: (661) 287-3855
Fax: (661) 222-7349
E-mail: thunri1@bp.com

June 4, 2007

CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Jim Sickles and Ms. Nadia Hollan-Burke
Remedial Project Managers
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street, SFD-8-2
San Francisco, CA 94105

**Subject: May 2007 Monthly Report, Yerington Mine Site, Lyon County, Nevada:
Administrative Order for Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study, EPA Docket
No. 9-2007-0005**

Dear Mr. Sickles:

Pursuant to the above referenced order issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), please note the following monthly status report for Atlantic Richfield Company (ARC) activities at the Yerington Mine Site during May 2007.

Operations, Maintenance and Site Security

- Pumpback well system averaged approximately 60.6 gpm; all 11 wells operated 24/7 with minor downtime for preventive maintenance (wells PW-2, PW-4 and PW-7).
- Performed primary road maintenance (wetting/grading) May 7-8.
- Arimetco heap leach fluid management system (FMS) operations continued. Total estimated gallons transferred from VLT Pond to Evaporation Pond = 279,000 gal. SSP to VLT Pond = 0 gal; SSP to Evaporation Pond = 0 gal; Plant Feed to Evaporation Pond = 0 gal; Raff sump to Phase 1 Pond = 0 gal. Pond levels: Evaporation Pond = 4.25 ft; VLT Pond = 3 ft; Slot 2 Pond = 7.25ft. Phase I, Plant Feed and Mega ponds were dry as of May 31.

Site Characterization (includes routine groundwater monitoring activities)

- 2Q 2007 groundwater sampling event conducted May 14-May18, including 22 domestic wells and 52 monitor wells; began laboratory analysis of samples.
- Site-wide monthly groundwater elevation measurements completed May 31.
- Continued revised AQM program.
- Continued wildlife observation activities (field surveys and camera trap photo-documentation).
- Submitted Draft Revised Conceptual Site Model to EPA on May 10.
- Continued preparation of the Draft Site-Wide Groundwater (OU1) RI Work Plan including the baseline human health risk assessment (HHRA) work plan for submittal in June 2007.
- Continued preparation of the Draft Process Areas (OU3) RI Work Plan including the baseline human health risk assessment (HHRA) work plan for submittal in August 2007.
- Provided EPA with response to comments on the Interim Evaporation Ponds Work Plan and continued revisions to the work plan.

A BP affiliated company



Site Characterization (continued)

- Submitted revised Quality Assurance Project Plan (“QAPP”) and associated responses to EPA comments to EPA on May 22.
- Received EPA approval letters for the requested extensions of the submittal dates for the Draft Site-Wide Groundwater RI Work Plan and Draft Process Areas RI Work Plan.
- The cultural resources inventory report for the area of background soils sampling is still under review by the BLM (Carson City Field Office), with approval expected in June 2007.
- Initiated field activities associated with the phyto-remediation project as an independent treatability study conducted by ARC with the installation of the test planting area, which consists of 10 varieties of trees in pots with native soil and irrigating with various combinations (6 combinations total) of fresh water and site groundwater collected in the vicinity of the pumpback well system. By the end of May, a total of 60 trees were potted and were being irrigated with fresh water only for the first month to acclimate the trees to the climate and soil (in late June, the trees will be switched to the water mixture).
- Initiated the 2nd Step HFA drilling, zonal sampling and well installation program on May 30 after two health and safety training sessions with ARC, Boart Longyear, and BC personnel on May 18 and 24. The initial drilling location is B/W-19, located on Mason Pass Road. Final access agreements with land owners were still under negotiation as of the end of May, and a revised map of proposed new borehole locations will be submitted to EPA by mid-June 2007 (proposed re-locations have been discussed with EPA hydrogeologists). Also, by mid-June 2007, the first of the bi-weekly status reports for the 2nd Step HFA will be submitted to project stakeholders.
- As part of the 2nd Step HFA, collected hydrologic tracer samples from 22 of the 27 proposed locations. Two surface water sampling locations, the Anaconda Pond and Wabuska Drain, that were dry during May will be opportunistically sampled as conditions allow. Sampling of irrigation well WDW019 will be coordinated with Mr. Peri's agricultural activities. Wells MW-2002-1 and MMW-2 will be sampled during June 2007.

Other Site Activities

- Quatterra personnel visited site May 1.
- Joe Sawyer (NDEP) and Tom Dunkelman (EPA) inspected Arimetco ponds May 3.
- EPA site tour May 8 and May 22.
- Attended Stakeholder's meeting May 9 and Technical Working Group meeting May 10.
- Joe Sawyer (NDEP) conducted monthly site inspection May 23.
- Stan Weimeyer (USFWS) conducted bird counts May 1, 8, 16, 22, and 30.

Planned June 2007 Activities

- Continue O&M, site security activities.
- Perform primary road maintenance (wetting/grading).
- Submittal of the first quarter report for the air quality monitoring program.
- Submittal of the Draft Site-Wide Groundwater RI Work Plan on June 22.
- Initiation of the background soils sampling program during the week of June 25.
- As EPA comments are received for draft versions of the HASP, QAPP and DMP, initiate modifications to these documents and prepare responses to comments.
- Installation of sap flow measurement equipment on the mature cottonwood trees located on Peri Farms property immediately north of the Sulfide Tailings.
- Continuation of the 2nd Step HFA program.



Mr. Jim Sickles – USEPA Region 9
Yerington Monthly Update
June 4, 2007
Page 3 of 3

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at (661) 287-3855 or via e-mail at thunril@bp.com.

Sincerely,



Roy Thun
Environmental Business Manager

cc: Joe Sawyer, NDEP – via electronic mail
Tom Olsen, BLM – via electronic mail
Dan Newell, City of Yerington Manager – via electronic mail
Phyllis Hunewill, Lyon County Commissioner – via electronic mail
Chris Winsor, Atlantic Richfield Company - via electronic mail
Todd Normane, Atlantic Richfield Company – via electronic mail
Rich Curley, Holland & Hart – via electronic mail
Chuck Zimmerman, Brown and Caldwell
Ed Schneider, Norwest Applied Hydrology – via electronic mail
Lyon County Library System Central

